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# BULLETIN

## OF THE

# AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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Issued in  
JANUARY, MARCH, MAY, JULY, SEPTEMBER AND  
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There is no subscription price, and the Bulletin is sent only to members of the Association.

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### AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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### INSTITUTIONAL LIBRARY WORK IN NEW JERSEY

The following statement regarding institutional libraries in New Jersey is here printed at the request of the New Jersey public library commission, as an addendum to Miss Julia A. Robinson's paper on "Book influences for defectives and dependents," read at the Kaaterskill conference of the Association:

New Jersey Public Library Commission was in 1907 put in charge of a system of traveling libraries to be operated among the county jails and state penal and correctional institutions. Thirty-three of these collections are now in use, the number of volumes in each collection varying according to the size of the institution. It has been found that the smaller jails do not wish to exchange these collections, preferring to keep them as a permanent loan until the books are worn out, as the war-

dens become familiar with the books and the population is shifting. Representatives of the Commission visit the various institutions, advise with the authorities as to library matters, aid them in the organization of their permanent collections and book selection for same. Talks are made to the inmates and every effort made to make the books useful. Books are sent to the convict camps, probation officers, preventorium and training schools, etc., in addition to those sent to regular state institutions.

### THE OXFORD 1914 CONFERENCE

A letter recently received by the Secretary from Mr. L. Stanley Jast, honorary secretary of the Library Association of the United Kingdom, has the following interesting preliminary information regarding the Oxford meeting of 1914, which we are taking the liberty to quote without permission of the writer:

" . . . Mr. Tedder and I went over to Oxford on Saturday last and discussed the meeting in 1914 with Mr. Madan, Bodley's librarian, Sir William Osler, as representing the curators, and Mr. Dougan, the municipal librarian. Our idea is to lay stress on a series of debates, to be opened by an American and an English librarian, so that we may be able to pool our ideas and experiences on matters of general interest for the benefit of all of us. Here are two or three of the subjects which have occurred to us:

Modern influences antagonistic to the reading of books. To be opened by an American and an English librarian.

The function of the library in the university. Opened by an American, an English and possibly a Canadian librarian.

The work of the committee man or trustee, and its relation to the administration. To be opened by an American and an English member of a library committee or board, possibly also by a member of a non-municipal committee or board.

The principles of book selection and book rejection. To be opened by an American, an English, and possibly a Canadian librarian.

What are the legitimate limits of the municipal library field. To be opened by an American and an English librarian.

The date is now definitely fixed for Monday, the 31st August, 1914, and following days. We hope to get a preliminary program out and let you have it before the end of this year, so that members may have plenty of time to make arrangements. We are very anxious to have a representative American gathering, so that I do hope your members will turn up in force. Probably a certain number of American librarians with a sprinkling of our own members will be put up at the colleges."

### LEAGUE OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONS

#### Recent Library Commission Publications

The Indiana public library commission has published a revised edition of "Popular books for boys and girls: a graded list with annotations," compiled by Miss Carrie E. Scott. This list is now for sale by the H. W. Wilson Co.

Iowa has recently published revised editions of the Library commission leaflets on "Rural extension," "Making a library beginning," and "Debate traveling libraries." The following are to be issued soon: "Iowa library commission, its activities and purpose," "Statistics of the public libraries of Iowa," "Public library laws," and lists of books on agriculture and household science.

The Massachusetts free public library commission has recently published its 23d report; a pamphlet entitled "General library legislation of Massachusetts, 1798-1913"; one on "Free public library buildings of Massachusetts: a roll of honor," which is a reprint, with additions, from the 23d report, and a 15-page reprint from the Massachusetts library club Bulletin, including two articles, one on "What the library can do for the foreign born," by John Foster Carr, and one on "What the foreigner had done for one library," by Miss J. Maud Campbell.

This Commission will publish in the near future as a reprint from the Bulletin of the Massachusetts library club, a list of books and pamphlets on vocational guid-

ance, prepared by Miss Mary E. Hall of the Girls' High School in Brooklyn. It will probably issue also some time this month an annotated list of 200-300 titles of Italian books, prepared under the direction of the new Educational agent for work with aliens, Miss J. Maud Campbell.

The president of the Massachusetts Commission expresses the hope that other foreign lists will be prepared by other commissions.

"Simplified scheme of Decimal Classification for small libraries" is the title of a pamphlet compiled by Miss Zaidee Brown and published by the Michigan state board of library commissioners. The Michigan Commission is now having printed a "Library assistants' manual."

"The library messenger," published by the Missouri library commission, began its existence September, 1913. The next number will appear about the middle of November, and, thereafter, the bulletin will be published monthly.

"Budgetary laws" is the title of Bulletin No. 3 of the legislative reference department of the North Dakota public library commission. This commission has also published recently a revised edition of the circular "Facts about traveling libraries."

The Oregon state library has recently issued two study outlines, one on "American literature," based on Matthews' "Introduction to the study of American literature," and one on "Travel in Scotland and Ireland," a reprint from a program published by the Wisconsin free library commission. A new edition of the Oregon "State school library list" will be issued soon.

Several commissions have recently published reports and bulletins.

### COMMITTEE ON BINDING

The A. L. A. Committee on Binding now has sample work from 33 binders in this country, two binders in England and one in Germany. On application librarians can have the opinion of the Committee regarding the work of any of these binders. If desired the volumes showing the work of